

Department of Justice

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EVANSVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE

PRESS RELEASE

Evansville - Jadrion Griffin (a.k.a. "Teese,"), 31, Evansville, was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment today by U.S. District Chief Judge Richard L. Young for conspiring to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. In January 2010, after a three-day trial in Evansville, a jury found Griffin guilty of conspiring to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine, two counts of possessing with intent to distribute crack cocaine, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The case against Griffin was the result of a joint investigation involving Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Indiana Excise Police, and the Evansville Police Department.

On February 3, 2007, Griffin led Indiana Excise Police and others on a vehicle pursuit during which Griffin threw approximately \$9000 worth of crack cocaine out the window of his car. Police officers located and seized the crack cocaine and arrested Griffin. Griffin was originally charged in Vanderburgh County with felony Dealing Cocaine. Griffin then posted bond and was released from the Vanderburgh County Jail pending trial.

On August 30, 2007, law enforcement officers executed a federal search warrant at Griffin's Evansville residence. Inside police located and seized approximately \$2600 worth of crack cocaine, a loaded .45 caliber firearm, and various items used by Griffin to distribute crack cocaine.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthias D. Onderak, who prosecuted the case for the government, the district court found that Griffin's criminal history qualified him for an enhanced sentence as a Career Offender. Chief Judge Young also imposed 10 years supervised release following Griffin's release from imprisonment.